





that the Amir was so incensed that he ordered his son to be sent.

Another judgment report from Kabul is the execution of an English seafarer formerly in the service of the British Envoy, and recently in the Amir's own service.

The Amir has seized 300 hostages of the people of Guzni and Khojana, in order to make them pay either three years' revenue in advance or give one man per family for the new army the Amir is raising.

## VOLUNTEERS IN INDIA.

It is reported from Simla that it has been resolved to place the administration of the Volunteers under the Commander-in-Chief, and to change their uniform to red. They are to draw half allowances in certain cases.

## GALLANTRY OF NAVAL SOLDIERS REWARDED.

BOMBAY, 30th May.

Nine men of the Ninth Bengal Lancers have received the Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry at Hazara.

## SEVERE EARTHQUAKES IN CASHMIRE.

SINGAPORE, 31st May.

A terrible earthquake occurred here yesterday at three o'clock in the morning, succeeded by shocks every ten minutes for one hour; than at longer intervals during the day and night. The shock did not cease yet.

Three rocks containing the teahouse have been thrown down, and 25 persons and 60 horses have been killed.

There have been some deaths also in the city.

The visitors' houses are much damaged, and the occupants have taken refuge in tents and boats.

The telegraph wires have been broken.

The alarm and apprehension are general.

Earthquakes similar in severity and continuance have seldom before been known in Kashmire.

## ANOTHER ACCIDENT.

SINGAPORE, 31st May.

A severe earthquake occurred here yesterday morning at a quarter to three, causing great loss of life and damage to property. The barracks of the Maharajah's troops were almost totally destroyed, and about two hundred sepoys and one hundred and fifty horses, forty men and seventy-four horses were killed, and about fifty men severely injured. In the city forty-one lives were lost, and double that number injured. No Europeans were hurt.

The Governor and the Dewan, Lubchundas and the Resident were early at the barracks superintending the digging out of men and horses.

Dr. T. G. Burgess, a medical missionary, lost his life in the wounded.

No such earthquake has been in the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

The Maharajah's palace is partly destroyed, while the Residency is irreparably damaged.

The shocks continue, but with less frequency and force.

Much damage has been done in the valley of the River. A mosque fell at Seper burying two hundred people. In spite of heavy rain the popular abomination of their dwellings. The telegraph is interrupted.

## AN EARTHQUAKE IN NORTHERN INDIA.

BOMBAY, 1st June.

A sharp shock of earthquake has been felt at Sitala and Lahore.

## MILITARY QUESTIONS RECEIVING CONSIDERATION.

BOMBAY, 1st June.

The question of providing a reserve for the Indian Army, and improving the training of the officers have recently constituted a subject upon which the subject sent to the Secretary of State.

## THE BUDGET AND THE INCREASED DUTIES.

LONDON, 5th June.

Mr. Children made a speech concerning the Budget, and said that nine millions of the £100 million already been spent. The increase of duty on spirits will be reduced to one shilling and the increased base duty will cease on 31st May next year.

## THE SUZ CANAL COMMISION.

LONDON, 5th June.

Lord Granville said that it was inexpedient to make a statement regarding the proceedings of the Sub-Commission: the circuits of 3rd January, 1885, will be taken as a basis of arrangement.

## REPORTED SETTLEMENT OF THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

LONDON, 5th June.

It is currently reported that a final agreement has virtually been concluded with Russia. The Standard states that it has been agreed to leave the command of the Zulfiqar Pass in the hands of India, and that the Commission for the delimitation of the frontier will be instructed to leave the Russians a defensible position at their end.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY, 26th June.

Quotations are—

Malta (New)..... \$300 per ton, free of all charges.

Malta (Old)..... \$340 to \$350 per ton, all charges.

Fatma (New)..... \$350 to \$380 per chest.

Fatma (Old)..... \$400 " "

## EXCHANGE.

On LONDON.—Telegraphic Transfer..... 3/6.

Bank Bills, on demand..... 3/6.

Bank Bills at 30 days' sight..... 3/6.

Bank Bills at 6 months' sight..... 3/6.

Credits, at 6 months' sight..... 3/7.

Documentary Bills at 6 months' sight..... 3/7.

On PARIS.—

Telegraphic Transfer..... 2/2.

Bank Bills, on demand..... 2/2.

On NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand..... 8/5.

Credits, 60 days' sight..... 8/7.

On BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer..... 2/2.

Bank Bills, on demand..... 2/2.

On CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer..... 2/2.

Bank Bills, on demand..... 2/2.

On SHANGHAI.—

Bank at sight..... 7/3.

Private, 30 days' sight..... 2/3.

SHANGHAI.—Shares are offering at 150 per cent premium for the end of the month.

INDO-CHINA.—Sales have been made at 20 per cent discount.

Quotations are—

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—150 per cent premium.

China Trade's Insurance Company, Limited—\$40 per share.

Cina Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—50 per share.

North China Insurance—Tls. 300 per share.

Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 150 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company, Limited—\$165 per share.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 148 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Limited—\$83 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$32 per share.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$72 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—\$100 per cent premium.

Hongkong Chamber of Trade Steamboat Co.'s Shares—\$40 per share premium.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—20 per cent discount.

China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited—30 per cent discount, nominal.

Douglas Steamship Company, Limited—2 per cent premium.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—\$90 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$160 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$104 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company (Dobentur)—nominal.

Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$85 per share.

Hongkong Ice Company's Shares—\$1424 per share.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$118 per share.

Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$40 per share.

Salangor Tin Mining Company—\$13 per share.

Perak Tin Smelting Company—Tls. 35 per share.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$71 per share.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—par.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—par.

## A FATAL MISTAKE IN AMERICA.

The Cleveland (Ohio, U.S.A.) Press, of Feb. 23, 1883, publishes account of a fatal surgical operation which has caused a great commotion among medical men throughout the whole country. Dr. Thayer, the most eminent surgeon in the United States, it is said, has died. It is known that Dr. King had been suffering for many years with some disease of the stomach which had resisted the treatment of all the physicians in attendance. The disease commenced with a slight derangement of the digestion, with a poor appetite, followed by a peculiar insatiable distress in the stomach, a feeling that had been described as "a faint pain." This was followed by a slight swelling, causing difficulty in breathing, especially in the morning. This sensation was not removed by food, but on the contrary, it was increased. The eyes then became tincted with yellow, and were swollen. After awhile the hands and feet became cold and sticky—cold perspiration. There was a constant tired and languid feeling. Then followed a dreadful nervousness with a desire to move, and a restlessness, when there came a dizzy feeling like vertigo. After the hours became restive, so that it was difficult to procure a moment without the food after eating, sometimes in a sort of feverish condition. All this derangement caused a terrible palpitation of the heart, so as to make the breathing difficult. Finally, the patient was unable to sleep, and for several days there was constant pain in the head, and all prescribed failings to give relief. A consultation was held, when it was decided that the patient had a cancer in the stomach, and in order to save the patient's life, an operation was justified. Accordingly, on Feb. 23, 1883, the operation was performed by Dr. Yancey, in the presence of Dr. Tuckerman, Dr. Parsons, Dr. Tracy, Dr. H. C. Moore, and Dr. W. H. Smith, all of the Faculty. The operation consisted in laying open the cavity of the stomach and removing the bowels, liver and pancreas. When this had been done, an examination of the organs was made, but to the horror and dismay of the doctors, there was no cancer to be found. The patient did not have a cancer. When too late, the medical men discovered that they had made a terrible mistake. They saved the patient's life, but the poor woman sank from exhaustion and died in a few hours. How it must be for the husband of this poor woman to know that his wife died from the effects of a surgical operation that ought never to have been performed! If this woman had taken the proper remedy for dyspepsia (for this is what the disease really was), she would have been living to-day. Sigeo's Curative Syrup is the remedy needed for dyspepsia. Individuals who have suffered from it have perfect health after all other kinds of treatment have failed. The evidence of its efficacy in curing this class of cases is too voluminous to be published here, but those who read the published evidences in favor of this dyspepsia remedy do not question its convincing nature; and this article has an extensive sale. Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the United States.

DR. BRIGHAM'S PHOSPHORIC ACID.

DR. BRIGHAM'S FLUID MAGNESIA.

DR. BRIGHAM'S FLUID MAGNESIA.

DR. BRIGHAM'S LIQUID MAGNESIA.

## EXTRACT.

**THE GREATEST GIFT OF GOD.**  
Each night is followed by his day,  
Each storm by fairer weather,  
While all's works of nature sing.  
Their paths of joy together.  
Then Isra' o' heart, their source of hope!  
Cause, such thy thankless sorrow;  
For though the clouds do dark today,  
The sun shall shine to-morrow.  
Learn well, from bird and tree and rill,  
The sins of dark resultant;  
And know the greatest gift of God  
Is faith and equal contentment.  
T. E. COOK, Jones, in Boston Traveller.

## THE FATHER OF GERMAN MUSIC.

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH.

There was a Miller, by name Veit Bach, who lived at Weichmar, in Saxo-Gotha, about the year 1600. He had considerable taste for music, and his principal enjoyment consisted in playing the "cithara" (probably a zither) to the clattering accompaniment of his turning mill-wheels. It was a happy union of business and pleasure. This taste for music was still more marked in his sons. Most of the family adopted music as a profession, and the best posts as organists in their native province came at last to be filled by Bachs. They furnish a remarkable example of hereditary genius—one of the most striking, indeed, on record. Through four consecutive generations the Bachs followed the same calling with enthusiasm, and no fewer than fifty musicians entitled to an honourable place in history of the art are to be found amongst them. Their musical and musical nature kept company for nearly two hundred years, at the end of which time the spell was broken, and the art's pre-eminence of the Bachs came to an end. Union is strength, so they kept close together, ready to give each other not only good advice, but material assistance. Every year they held a family meeting at Erfurt, Eisenach, or Arnstadt, and had musical performances together. These annual gatherings give an idea of the strength of the clan; at one of them no fewer than a hundred and twenty Bachs, all musicians, were present. The greatest of them, the Bach of Bachs, was Jochana Sebastian, to whom considerable attention is now being directed, the bicentenary of his birth having fallen this year. To speak of him is the object of the present article. The leading events in the life of Johann Sebastian Bach are soon told. They are neither numerous nor striking. He was born at Eisenach on March 21, 1685, and was the youngest son of Ambrosius Bach. Unhappily, when he was ten years old both his father and mother died. An elder brother, organist at Ohrdruf, then took charge of him and continued the musical instruction which had been begun by the father, adding, to the practices of the violin that of the organ and clavichord. The young Sebastian showed himself in haste to make progress, and was ambitious to play much advanced music than the brother thought proper. There is a tradition that the latter had a manuscript volume of pieces for the clavichord by the most celebrated composers of the day, and on mastering this collection, Johann Sebastian had set his heart. The use of it was refused. Entreaty having failed, the boy tried cunning. He managed to withdraw it, surreptitiously through the lattice-work door of a cupboard in which it was kept, and—having no means to buy candles—copied it by the light of the moon. These stealthy labours lasted during the moonlight nights of six months. When the brother found out the trick that had been played he, rather shabbily, one is inclined to think, took the boy's copy away, and Johann Sebastian only recovered it on his brother's death, which happened soon afterwards. This boy, when that event took place, on his own resources, he made a marketable commodity of a fine soprano voice with which he was gifted, and began his professional career in a choir at Liebenburg. Whilst at Liebenburg he used frequently to go to Hamburg in order to hear the celebrated organists. A Bohemian player, it is related, once when he had lingered at Hamburg longer than his means allowed, he had only two shillings in his pocket on his way back to Lüneburg. Before he reached home he felt very hungry, and stopped outside an inn from the kitchen of which he procured such tempting odours as made him painfully aware of the disproportion of his appetite to his purse. His hungry appearance seems to have struck with compassion some casual lookers-on, for he heard a window open, and saw two herring heads thrown out into the road. The sight of these remains of what was a popular article of food in Thuringia, his old home, made his mouth water; he picked them up eagerly, and great was his surprise on pulling them to pieces to find a Danish duot placed in each of them. This discovery enabled him not only to satisfy his wants at the moment, but to make his next journey to Hamburg in a more comfortable manner. The unknown benefactor, who so doubtless peeped out of the window to watch the result of his good-nature, made no attempt to know more of the boy. When eighteen years old Bach obtained a musical situation in connection with the Court of Weimar, and saw something there of aristocratic life. It was a honest Court; it went to bed at eight o'clock in winter and nine in summer. His reputation grew, he soon became known as the greatest organist of his time, and his services were much sought after. From Weimar he went to Arnstadt, then to Mühlhausen, then to Weimar again—as Court organist this time. Other changes followed, but we come to the last in 1723, when he was appointed Cantor at the Thomas-Schule in Leipzig, and organist and director of the music in the two principal churches. There he remained for the rest of his life. Ever since his boyhood Bach had been near-sighted, and at last his vision entirely failed. He died of apoplexy on July 28, 1750. As regards the personal appearance of this great musician, his countenance is described as one of singular dignity and refinement. Thick eyebrows stood out from beneath his great forehead, and he had that long nose which they say Fortune gives to her favourites that she may use it as a handle when she draws them to the front. His knitted brows might be taken to indicate severity of character; but, remarks one writer, "the impression is softened by the sweet sensitive lines of the mouth." He was quick-tempered, and fired in sometimes at very trifling opposition. But excuse must be made for the irritation of an artist when he finds himself opposed and unappreciated by the Philistines. The wretched Corporation of Arnstadt once rebuked Bach, for his "perplexing variations" and strange harmonies whereby the congregation was confounded, and on such an occasion no doubt he needed a stock of good temper. He also had occasional disputes at Leipzig with his employers, the town councillors, who were sometimes shocked by the "clerical" style of his compositions and by the independent way in which he conducted himself. But there was a general side to Bach's character, and in his relations as husband, father, and friend he secured the admiration of all who knew him. He was of a deeply religious spirit, and this is evident in everything he undertook during his busy life. Modesty has never been a characteristic of musicians, but Bach was modest. The question was once put to him how he had acquired his great talent. "By working hard," he replied; "and all who like to work as hard will succeed just as I have done." He was twice married. The death of his first wife, Maria Barbara, forms

one of the few melancholy events of his career. He was returning from a pleasant visit to Cördoba, and when on the road and no news could reach him his wife suddenly fell sick and died. When he arrived at his own door, full of happiness at the thought of seeing her again, he found that she was already buried. His second wife, Anna Magdalena, was fifteen years his junior, but—thanks to similarity of taste—she proved an admirable companion, helping in his work and sharing in his pleasures. By his first wife he had seven children, by his second thirteen; there were twenty in all, eleven boys and nine girls. Bach's inventive capacity was shown not only in his adoption of equal temperament, and in his innovations in the style of fingering—for in that too he introduced great improvements—but in the construction of a new instrument, the late-harpsichord (*Lautenharpsichord*). This instrument had surprising brilliancy of tone. The difficulty of tuning, however, led to its abandonment, and no wonder, if in that respect it at all resembled the first of the instruments from which it derived its name. Let us speak now of Bach in his higher character as a composer. A great creative genius he certainly was, one of the most remarkable, indeed, of the masters of the world of music. His inexhaustible fertility, the novel and independent character of his work, its profound science, and deep earnestness, all entitle him to lasting fame. Comparisons have often been drawn between Bach and Handel. They were contemporaries musical giants, both born in the same year. Their styles are as different as their lives: the difference between the two, it has been well said, "is the same as that which lies between a great philosopher and a great epic poet—between Plato and Homer." They are equally great in their ways, but the poet will be understood with less effort than the philosopher, and listened to with more pleasure. The fame of Bach excited the curiosity of Frederick the Great, and this resulted in an invitation in 1747 to the Court of Potsdam. It was the last journey undertaken by the composer. His arrival was announced just as the king was beginning a flute solo at a State concert. The monarch laid down his instrument, and turning to the musicians who were waiting to accompany him, "Gentlemen," he exclaimed, "old Bach has come!" There was no flute-playing that evening. Bach was taken from room to room of the palace, and had to play on all the Silberman pianofortes, instruments which the king particularly admired, and of which he had a considerable number. Graciously by the respect and kindness of his reception, the composer did his best, and excited the greatest wonder by his improvisations. A theme which the king gave him was worked up on his return to Leipzig, and it was dedicated to Frederick the Great under the title of "*Musikalischer Opfer*." But if Bach was famous during life, little regard seems to have been paid to his memory. His widow had a struggle to exist, and died a pauper at last, ten years after her husband. Then Leipzig, of which he was such a distinguished ornament, rooted up St. John's Churchyard, where he had been laid to rest, and threw it into a road, and the composer's bones were scattered, to one apparently caring what became of them.—JAMES MASON, in *Leisure Hour*.

## A REASSURING LICK.

Sam V. Harris lives in Fort Worth. Neither he nor his wife are very sauté, as will be seen by the following incident. Last night Sam heard a noise under his bed. "There is somebody under the bed," said Sam to his wife. "It's Fido, I guess." "No, I think it's a burglar," replied Sam. "Just reach your hand down and if it is Fido we'll kill it."

The burglar, for it was one after all, overheard the conversation and when Sam reached his bed down the burglar lifted it all over affectionately. This was entirely satisfactory, and "boy boys" went to sleep, but when they woke up next morning there was not much left in the house that was worth carrying off.—*Texas Styling*.

## NOVEL METHOD OF ADVERTISING.

Between ten and eleven o'clock, on April 13th, there was an unusual excitement in the Colosseum, Glasgow. Some two months ago Mr. Walter Wilson placed in one of the windows of his establishment a large jar filled with peas, and at the same time intimated that whoever would tell the correct number in the jar would receive a gift of one hundred sovereigns. Every purchaser of five shillings' worth of goods had the privilege of estimating, and over 30,000 tried their hands, the number in the jar being put down at various figures ranging from twenty-one single pence to 17,000,000! Offers had come from every quarter of Scotland, and from nearly all classes of society. The method of arriving at an estimate sent in were, it is said, both numerous and curious. Some dreamed of a figure; others took odds or tails to go above ten or twenty thousands; many made profound mathematical calculations; careful housewives weighed their peas; and others abrogated.

France, Thailand, 1851.

Convection, 1850.

United States, Thailand, 1853.

"Additional," 1869.

Peking, 1850.

German, Thailand, 1861.

Peking, 1860.

Russia, Japan, Spain, Brazil, and Peru.

Theatres with Japan, 1861.

Netherlands, Corea.

United States, Corea.

Theatres with Corsa.

Theatres with Siam.

Theatres with Annam.

Customs Tariffs.

Trade Regulations.

China.

Japan.

Customs and Harbour Regulations for the different ports of China, Philippines, Siam, &c.

Trade Regulations.

Hongkong.

Charles of the Colony.

New Rules of Legislative Council.

&c., &c., &c.

The Treaties between Great Britain and Siam, 1854.

and Annam, 1854.

France and Annam, 1854.

Great Britain and Siam, 1855.

Cameroon, 1855.

China, 1855.

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